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THE COUNTY'S MISSION:

To deliver excellent public service that enhances quality of life and addresses our community's needs now and in the future.

DIVISION INFORMATION

Community Assistance
534 West Lake Mary Blvd.
Sanford FL 32773
Phone: (407) 665-2300



Community Development
534 West Lake Mary Blvd.
Sanford FL 32773
Phone: (407) 665-2300

Carrie Longworth	12 Years
Cora Yon	10 Years
Ed Burford	8 Years
Jeff Aldridge	4 Years
Kiauna Carbin	1 Year
Elivette Torres	1 Year

Front Page News

Hurricane Irma

On September 10, 2017, Hurricane Irma made landfall in Seminole County bringing 73 mph sustained winds with over 18 inches of rainfall. As a result of the storm, over 160,000 customers throughout the county lost power and 240 traffic signals were rendered temporarily out of service. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was operational for 2+ weeks - fielding over 14,000 calls on the Citizens Information line.

Additionally, the county opened nine shelters and housed over 1,600 people and over 200 pets. The Community Services staff along with employees from other departments manned the shelter at Winter Springs H.S. Seminole County is still in recovery mode, subsequent to the wrath of Hurricane Irma with an estimated 1,000,000 cubic yards of debris scattered countywide. Special thanks to all of the dedicated Seminole County employees.



Pictured right: Seminole County Community Services Dept. Staff and other County employees at Winter

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

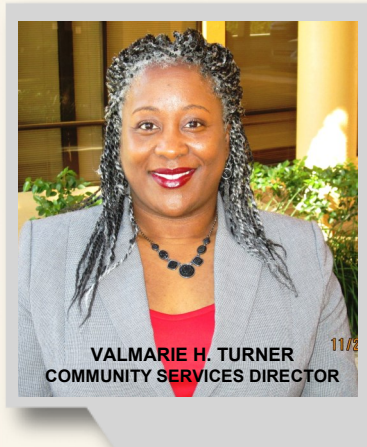
Greetings from the Community Services Department!!!

Where has the time gone? Approximately six (6) years ago, I began my tenure as the Seminole County Community Services Department Director. As many of you know, my last day with Seminole County Government is October 20th as I have accepted another position.

I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to serve the citizens of Seminole County as well as working collaboratively with my colleagues, employees, and the entire community. In this position, I have learned that communities, such as Seminole County, that are committed to working cohesively together can truly make a difference in the lives of all citizens – all of which I will take with me.

As I begin the next chapter of my career, I wish the Community Services Department and those responsible for serving the residents of Seminole County continued success with the initiatives and programs that we have implemented in the past six (6) years.

Thank you all for your support!!!



VALMARIE H. TURNER
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."

- John C. Maxwell

Around the Divisions

Community Assistance Division

Veteran Services

2017 Seminole County Veterans Stand Down

The 2017 Homeless Veterans Stand Down will be held on **Saturday, October 21, 2017, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, at the Florida Health Department in Seminole County, Florida, 400 W. Airport Blvd., Sanford, FL 32773.**

The Homeless Veteran Stand Down is an annual event designed to bring Homeless and precariously housed Veterans to a central location in an effort to reconnect them with the Veterans Administration (VA); and other service providers that can meet their needs.

The event provides several services on-site including dental screenings, clothing, hygiene products, showers, haircuts, and food. Engagement and connection to supportive services is also provided including referrals for healthcare, mental health, legal aid, housing and other supportive services.

Community Assistance staff also provides information on programs provided by the Community Services Department including Rent, Utility, and Dental Assistance for eligible households.

Major partners for this event include The Florida Health Department in Seminole County, the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs, Homeless Services Network of Central Florida (HSN), the City of Sanford, Florida Hospital and Candlelight Catering as well as numerous local nonprofit organizations.

For additional information contact: Ed Burford, Veterans Service Officer, 407-665-2300, rburford@seminolecountyfl.gov



Around the Divisions

Community Assistance Division

Community Assistance

Back To School Bash

Seminole County Community Services Department hosted it's 4th Annual "Back to School Bash". The event was held on Saturday, July 29th at the Sanford Civic Center in downtown Sanford from 9 am to 12 noon. The Back to School Bash is a family-oriented event that celebrates the beginning of the new school season. This event helps Seminole County grades K-12 children and their parents to get into the groove of the new school year. Attendees received free haircuts, backpacks, school supplies, lunch, entertainment, and a variety of health services. Together, we were able to provide the following to our community:

Backpacks: 450

Haircuts and Other Services: 128

School Physicals: 3

Dental Screenings: 25

Immunizations: 13

Number of Organizations Participating: 17



Around the Divisions

Community Development Division

Community Development

Donna King and Cora Yon attended the Grant Church Friends and Family Event on Saturday July 15th in Oviedo. There was plenty of food, fellowship, and fun including a cook-out, waterslide, and children's games. Community Development gave out goodie bags and shared information on the services provided by Community Services including the Immediate Needs Program, Purchase Assistance, and Back to School Bash.



On Saturday, August 26th Habitat for Humanity Seminole/Apopka held a community celebration and ribbon cutting at its Magnolia Place Townhomes located in Longwood. Donna King, Melody Frederick, Tonya Madison and Cora Yon were in attendance. It was previously an abandoned project and adjacent lot that has been transformed into 10 townhomes for Habitat clients. Eight of the families have either received Purchase Assistance or are in the process of receiving the assistance to help them attain their dreams of homeownership. Once the properties are closed, Seminole County will have provided \$110,000 in Purchase Assistance.



Inspire, formerly known as Seminole Work Opportunity Program (SWOP), in partnership with the Seminole County Chamber of Commerce, hosted a re-inspired grand opening of its facility on Wednesday, September 20th. Donna King, Melody Frederick and Diane Durr attended and toured the remodeled offices and production facility. The agency received \$26,800 of assistance in compliance with the 2017/2018 one year action plan. These funds were used to replace two HVAC units and install three industrial fans.



Around the Divisions

Community Development Division

Community Development (cont'd.)

On July 28, 2017, Community Development staff successfully closed on the purchase of a Multi-Family Residential property located at 3500 S. Sanford Avenue, Sanford FL.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) funding were used to acquire the property, which will be rehabilitated and transferred to a non-profit organization to operate as an affordable rental property. The structure has a total of 7 bedrooms, 8 bathrooms, and 2 offices which make it ideal for operation as a single-room occupancy rental property. Once construction is completed, a non-profit organization will be selected through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, and subsequent approval by the Board of County Commissioners.



HUD Timeliness Expenditure Deadline Met

During this quarter, Community Development achieved HUD's timeliness of expenditure requirement for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for 2017. In order to meet this requirement, Community Development needed to spend approximately \$1.4 million in CDBG funding between October 1, 2016 and August 2, 2017. This goal was reached and CDBG timeliness was met through combined efforts of Community Development, Community Assistance, and Business Office staff. CDBG funds were expended on a variety of projects, including Housing Rehabilitation, Immediate Needs, Public Services, and Public Facilities improvements.